

REMARKS

This Submission accompanies a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114. Because this Submission is filed contemporaneously with a Petition for a two (2) month Extension of Time, a check for \$490.00 set forth under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(2) and a certificate of mailing in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.8 on or before the shortened period for reply set to expire on **March 28, 2009**, this Response is timely filed.

Moreover, this Response is submitted contemporaneously with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114, and a check in the amount of \$810.00 for the RCE fee set forth under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e).

Prior to this Submission, claims 1 to 5, 7 and 21 to 30 were pending and at issue. By this Submission, claims 1, 21 and 26 have been amended, none of the pending claims have been canceled, and no new claims have been added. Thus, claims 1 to 5, 7 and 21 to 30 remain pending and at issue in this application.

The total fees believed due in connection with this Response and the RCE are \$1300.00, however, Applicants direct the Office to charge **Deposit Account No. 23-1925 (08285-00664)** for any fees deemed owed during the pendency of this application, excluding the issue fee.

In light of the amendments to claims 1, 21 and 26 presented herein, Applicants submit that the pending rejections have been rendered moot. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the pending rejections and submits that the above-identified patent application is now in condition for allowance and earnestly solicits reconsideration of same. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE

Dated: **March 27, 2009**

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